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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/496,457	02/02/2000	Yoshihiro Hara	018656-123	6260

21839 7590 05/20/2004

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POST OFFICE BOX 1404
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EXAMINER	
TRAN, DOUGLAS Q	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2624	8

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/496,457	Applicant(s) HARA ET AL.	
	Examiner Douglas Q. Tran	Art Unit 2624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *10 July 2003*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-16* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☒ Claim(s) *5-8* is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-4 and 9-16* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 4, 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Mikuni (US Patent No. 6,133,947) and Suzuki et al. (US Patent No. 6,704,119).

As to claim 1, Mikuni teaches an image printer system (i.e., the system, which is a wordprocessor 21 in fig. 5, shows an internal arrangement "col. 6, lines 39-41", comprising:

a receiving unit (i.e., camera I/F circuit 31 in fig. 5) that receives image data (col. 7, lines 8-11 describes that the photographed image data is received from the digital camera via camera I/F unit 31; or the map image data is received from the CD-ROM player "34 in fig. 5 and col. 7, lines 13-15);

a printing unit (i.e., a printer unit 33 in fig. 5) that prints out an image based on the received image data (col. 9, lines 56-58 describes that the photographed image data, which is received from the digital camera "col. 7, lines 10-12", is printed out; col. 14, lines 62-65 shows that the received map image and the received photographed image, from the CD-ROM and the digital camera respectively "col. 7, lines 9-15", are printed out);

a saving unit (i.e., floppy disk driver 32 in fig. 5) that saves the received image data in a recording medium (i.e., a floppy disk) (col. 7, lines 21-27 describes that the floppy disk drive saves the memory contents of the RAM " the received image data" on the floppy disk that is the

recording medium. Col. 7, lines 10-19 describes that the memory contents of the RAM includes the received photographed image data, which is received from the camera 1, in combination "or synthesization" with other received map image data. Although the photographed image data combined with other the map image data, the combination image data still contains the received photographed image data which is saved in the floppy disk); and

a control unit (i.e., CPU 22 in fig. 5) that begins a printing operation by the printing unit (col. 7, lines 2-4 describes that the CPU 22 controls the printing operation by the printing unit 33) in case that the printing operation is instructed before it is begun,

(It is noted that: 1) the CPU 22 is employed so as to control the overall operation of this word processor 21 "col. 6, lines 43-45". The CPU 22 also controls a key operation unit 24 by providing the display data to a display unit 26 when key operation unit inputs the document data "col. 6, lines 46-50 ". The CPU also controls a printing operation for a printer unit "col. 7, lines 2-4";

2) Col. 9, lines 57-59 describes that the photographed image data is read out from the digital camera so as to be *displayed* and/or *printed out*. Since the image data is *displayed* to the display unit 26, the display operation should be instructed by the key operation unit 24 before the display data of the document is displayed onto display unit 26 as described above "col. 6, lines 46-50". The same method above would be inherently applied to the case of the *printing* operation in order for the printing operation would be also instructed by the operation key at operation unit 24 before the printing out the image data by the printer unit 33).

Although Mikuni teaches a control unit (i.e., CPU 22 in fig. 5) for controlling a data save operation by the save unit (the CPU 22 controls the output operation "save operation" of the a

floppy disk driver "col. 7, lines 2-3 and 21-27"), and, col. 13, lines 10-14, describes that when an image saving instruction is issued from the key operation unit 57, then the CPU 55 supplies and saves the memory content of the RAM "the image data" via the disk I/F circuit 54 to the floppy disk driver 53, Mikuni does not teach the save operation is instructed before the save operation is begun.

Suzuki teaches the save operation is instructed consecutively with print operation (col. 14, lines 1-5)..

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the save operation of Mikuni for saving operation to the image data as taught by Suzuki. The suggestion for modifying the save operation of Mikuni can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth above because the modified printer system of Mikuni would increase the functionality of the operation unit by adding an image saving instruction key. The resultant system would allow the user to select the image data not only for printing but also for saving.

As to claim 4, Mikuni and Suzuki disclose every feature discussed in claim 1, and Mikuni further teaches that control unit (i.e., CPU 22 in fig. 5) begins the printing operation before beginning the data save operation (it is noted that, with respect to the combination of Mikuni and the third embodiment of Mikuni from claim 1, since Mikuni teaches the print operation (col. 9, lines 57-59) and the save operation (col. 13, lines 11-14) which are commanded by the operator at the operation unit (24 in fig. 5) via the print and save keys. Therefore, if the operator issues the print instruction key before the save instruction key at the operation unit, then the control unit inherently begins the print operation before save operation).

As to claim 15, Mikuni teaches an image printer system (i.e., the system, which is a wordprocessor 21 in fig. 5, shows an internal arrangement "col. 6, lines 39-41", comprising the steps of:

receiving image data (col. 7, lines 8-11 describes that the photographed image data is received from the digital camera via camera I/F unit 31; or the map image data is received from the CD-ROM player "34 in fig. 5 and col. 7, lines 13-15);

instructing a printing operation (it is noted that: 1) the CPU 22 is employed so as to control the overall operation of this word processor 21 "col. 6, lines 43-45". The CPU 22 also controls a key operation unit 24 by providing the display data to a display unit 26 when key operation unit inputs the document data "col. 6, lines 46-50 ". The CPU also controls a printing operation for a printer unit "col. 7, lines 2-4";

2) Col. 9, lines 57-59 describes that the photographed image data is read out from the digital camera so as to be *displayed* and/or *printed out*. Since the image data is *displayed* to the display unit 26, the display operation should be instructed by the key operation unit 24 before the display data of the document is displayed onto display unit 26 as described above "col. 6, lines 46-50". The same and above method would inherently is applied to the case of the *printing* operation in order for the printing operation would be also *instructed* by the operation key at operation unit 24 before the printing out the image data);

printing out an image based on the received image data (col. 9, lines 56-58 describes that the photographed image data, which is received from the digital camera "col. 7, lines 10-12", is printed out; col. 14, lines 62-65 shows that the received map image and the received

photographed image, from the CD-ROM and the digital camera respectively "col. 7, lines 9-15", are printed out);

saving the received image data in a recording medium (col. 7, lines 21-27 describes that saving the memory contents of the RAM " the received image data" by the floppy disk driver onto the floppy disk that is the recording medium. Col. 7, lines 10-19 describes that the memory contents of the RAM include the received photographed image data, which is received from the camera 1, in combination or synthesization with the map image data from CD ROM 25. Although the photographed image data combined with other the map image data, the combination image data still contains the received photographed image data which is saved in the floppy disk).

Although Mikuni teaches a control unit (i.e., CPU 22 in fig. 5) for controlling a data save operation by the save unit (the CPU 22 controls the output operation "save operation" of the a floppy disk driver "col. 7, lines 2-3 and 21-27"), and, col. 13, lines 10-14, describes that when an image saving instruction is issued from the key operation unit 57, then the CPU 55 supplies and saves the memory content of the RAM "the image data" via the disk I/F circuit 54 to the floppy disk driver 53, Mikuni does not teach the save operation is instructed before the save operation is begun.

Suzuki teaches the save operation is instructed before the save operation is begun (col. 14, lines 1-5)..

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the save operation of Mikuni for saving operation to the image data as taught by Suzuki. The suggestion for modifying the save operation of Mikuni can be

reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth above because the modified printer system of Mikuni would increase the functionality of the operation unit by adding an image saving instruction key. The resultant system would allow the user to select the image data not only for printing but also for saving.

As to claim 16, Mikuni teaches an image printer system (i.e., the system, which is a wordprocessor 21 in fig. 5, shows an internal arrangement "col. 6, lines 39-41", comprising:

a receiving unit (i.e., camera I/F circuit 31 in fig. 5) that receives image data (col. 7, lines 8-11 describes that the photographed image data is received from the digital camera via camera I/F unit 31; or the map image data is received from the CD-ROM player "34 in fig. 5 and col. 7, lines 13-15);

a printing unit (i.e., a printer unit 33 in fig. 5) that prints out an image based on the received image data (col. 9, lines 56-58 describes that the photographed image data, which is received from the digital camera "col. 7, lines 10-12", is printed out; col. 14, lines 62-65 shows that the received map image and the received photographed image, from the CD-ROM and the digital camera respectively "col. 7, lines 9-15", are printed out);

a saving unit (i.e., floppy disk driver 32 in fig. 5) that saves the received image data in a recording medium (col. 7, lines 21-27 describes that the floppy disk drive saves the memory contents of the RAM " the received image data" on the floppy disk that is the recording medium. Col. 7, lines 10-19 describes that the memory contents of the RAM includes the received photographed image data, which is received from the camera 1, in combination or synthesization with the map image data. Although the photographed image data combined with other the map

image data, the combination image data still contains the received photographed image data which is saved in the floppy disk); and

a control unit (i.e., CPU 22 in fig. 5) that sets a parameter for a printing operation (col. 7, lines 2-4 describes that the CPU 22 controls the printing operation of the printing unit 33; col. 6, lines 43-46: the CPU 22 is employed so as to control the overall operation of this wordprocessor 21 in accordance with various sorts of programs stored in the a storage unit 24. Therefore, in order to control the print operation at the printer unit, the CPU 22 should inherently set a printing-operation parameter from the program in the storage unit 24 to send and control the printing unit) before it is begun by the printing unit,

(It is noted that: 1) the CPU 22 is employed so as to control the overall operation of this word processor 21 "col. 6, lines 43-45". The CPU 22 also controls a key operation unit 24 by providing the display data to a display unit 26 when key operation unit inputs the document data "col. 6, lines 46-50 ". The CPU also controls a printing operation for a printer unit "col. 7, lines 2-4".

2) Col. 9, lines 57-59 describes that the photographed image data is read out from the digital camera so as to be *displayed* and/or *printed out*. Since the image data is *displayed* to the display unit 26, the display operation should be instructed by the key operation unit 24 before the display data of the document is displayed onto display unit 26 as described above "col. 6, lines 46-50". The same method above would inherently is applied to the case of the *printing* operation in order for the printing operation would be also instructed by the operation key at the operation unit 24. The CPU 22 receives the printing signal from the operation unit 24, then the CPU 22 should inherently set a printing-operation parameter from the program in the storage unit 24 to

send and control at printing unit for performing the printing operation. Therefore, *the CPU 22 that sets a parameter for a printing operation before the printing operation is performed by the printing unit*).

Although Mikuni teaches a control unit (i.e., CPU 22 in fig. 5) for controlling a data save operation by the save unit (the CPU 22 controls the output operation "save operation" of the a floppy disk driver "col. 7, lines 2-3 and 21-27"), and, col. 13, lines 10-14, describes that when an image saving instruction is issued from the key operation unit 57, then the CPU 55 supplies and saves the memory content of the RAM "the image data" via the disk I/F circuit 54 to the floppy disk driver 53, Mikuni does not teach the save operation is instructed before the save operation is begun.

Suzuki teaches the save operation is instructed before the save operation is begun (col. 14, lines 1-5)..

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the save operation of Mikuni for saving operation to the image data as taught by Suzuki. The suggestion for modifying the save operation of Mikuni can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth above because the modified printer system of Mikuni would increase the functionality of the operation unit by adding an image saving instruction key. The resultant system would allow the user to select the image data not only for printing but also for saving.

3. Claims 9-12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Mikuni (US Patent No. 6,133,947) and Goldberg (US Patent No. 6,526,158 B1).

As to claim 9, Mikuni teaches an image printer system (i.e., the system, which is a wordprocessor 21 in fig. 5, shows an internal arrangement "col. 6, lines 39-41", comprising:

a receiving unit (i.e., camera I/F circuit 31 in fig. 5) that receives image data (col. 7, lines 8-11 describes that the photographed image data is received from the digital camera via camera I/F unit 31; or the map image data is received from the CD-ROM player "34 in fig. 5 and col. 7, lines 13-15);

a printing unit (i.e., a printer unit 33 in fig. 5) that prints out an image based on the received image data (col. 9, lines 56-58 describes that the photographed image data, which is received from the digital camera "col. 7, lines 10-12", is printed out; col. 14, lines 62-65 shows that the received map image and the received photographed image, from the CD-ROM and the digital camera respectively "col. 7, lines 9-15", are printed out);

a saving unit (i.e., floppy disk driver 32 in fig. 5) that saves the received image data in a recording medium (i.e., a floppy disk) (col. 7, lines 21-27 describes that the floppy disk drive saves the memory contents of the RAM " the received image data" on the floppy disk that is the recording medium. Col. 7, lines 10-19 describes that the memory contents of the RAM includes the received photographed image data, which is received from the camera 1, in combination "or synthesization" with other received map image data. Although the photographed image data combined with other the map image data, the combination image data still contains the received photographed image data which is saved in the floppy disk); and

a controller (a CPU 22 in fig. 5) for controlling the displaying of received image data (col. 6, lines 46-50) and combining or synthesizing the received image data to other image data (col. 7, lines 10-18).

However, Mikuni does not teach the CPU (or a correcting unit) for correcting the received image data so that the corrected image data is printed.

Goldberg, in the same field endeavor "image processing system such as a kiosk", teaches a correcting unit for corrects the received image data so that the corrected image data is printed (in fig. 2 and col. 15, lines 41 describes that the patron 43 stands in front of the kiosk " 75 in fig. 2" that has the distribution station 77 including the viewing screen 85 for reviewing the received image data from the storage device 71. Col. 15, lines 53-59 describes that, at the distribution station 77, the patron could perform certain actions such as printing an image and manipulating the image to produce special photographic effects such as adjusting contrast or color, etc. Therefore, the distribution station 77 inherently comprises a component corresponding to a correcting unit for adjusting contrast or color on the received image data; and the corrected image data is printed by the patron).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the controller CPU 22 of Mikuni for correcting or modifying the received image data and then the correcting image data is printed as taught by Goldberg. The suggestion for modifying the printing system of Mikuni can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth above by Goldberg because the modified printing system of Mikuni would increase the functionality of the CPU for correcting the color or contrast to the input image data before the image data is printed out. Therefore, the resultant combination system of Mikuni and Goldberg will improve image quality for the printed image data.

As to claim 10, Mikuni and Goldberg disclose every feature discussed in claim 9, and Mikuni further teaches of that a control unit (i.e., CPU 22 in fig. 5) that a printing operation by

the printing unit (col. 7, lines 2-4 describes that the CPU 22 controls the printing operation by the printing unit 33) in case that the printing operation is instructed before it is begun (It is noted that: 1) the CPU 22 is employed so as to control the overall operation of this word processor 21 "col. 6, lines 43-45". The CPU 22 also controls a key operation unit 24 by providing the display data to a display unit 26 when key operation unit inputs the document data "col. 6, lines 46-50 ". The CPU also controls a printing operation for a printer unit "col. 7, lines 2-4";

2) Col. 9, lines 57-59 describes that the photographed image data is read out from the digital camera so as to be *displayed* and/or *printed out*. Since the image data is *displayed* to the display unit 26, the display operation should be instructed by the key operation unit 24 before the display data of the document is displayed onto display unit 26 as described above "col. 6, lines 46-50". The same method above would inherently apply to the case of the *printing* operation in order for the printing operation would be also instructed by the operation key at operation unit 24 before the printing out the image data by the printer unit 33).

Although Mikuni teaches a control unit (i.e., CPU 22 in fig. 5) for controlling a data save operation by the save unit (the CPU 22 controls the output operation "save operation" of the a floppy disk driver "col. 7, lines 2-3 and 21-27"), Mikuni does not teach the save operation is instructed before the save operation is begun.

Mikuni teaches, with respect to the third embodiment of the present invention "from col. 12, line 21 to col. 14, line 50", the save operation is instructed before the save operation is begun (col. 13, lines 10-14 describes that when an image saving instruction is issued from the key operation unit 57, then the CPU 55 supplies and saves the memory content of the RAM "the image data" via the disk I/F circuit 54 to the floppy disk driver 53).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the operation unit 24 of Mikuni to have the save instruction key for instructing the save operation to the image data before the image data is transferred to the floppy unit as taught by the third embodiment in Mikuni. The suggestion for modifying the operation unit 24 of Mikuni can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth above because the modified printer system of Mikuni would increase the functionality of the operation unit by adding an image saving instruction key. The resultant system would allow the user to select the image data not only for printing but also for saving.

although Mikuni does not teach the control unit begins the printing operation and data save operation consecutively, with respect to the result of the combination of Mikuni and the third embodiment of Mikuni, Mikuni teaches the print operation (col. 9, lines 57-59) and the save operation (col. 13, lines 11-14) which are commanded by the operator at the key operation unit (24 in fig. 5) via the print and save keys. Therefore, if the operator issues the print instruction key and the save instruction key consecutively at the operation unit, then the control unit inherently begins the print and save operations by the printing unit and the saving unit consecutively.

As to claim 11, Mikuni and Goldberg disclose every feature discussed in claim 10, and Mikuni further teaches of that the control unit (CPU 22 in fig. 5) begins the printing operation before beginning the data save operation (it is noted that, with respect to the combination of Mikuni and the third embodiment of Mikuni in claim 10, since Mikuni teaches the print operation (col. 9, lines 57-59) and the save operation (col. 13, lines 11-14) which are commanded by the operator at the key operation unit (24 in fig. 5) via the print and save keys.

Therefore, if the operator issues the print instruction key before the save instruction key at the operation unit, then the control unit inherently begins the print operation before save operations).

As to claim 12, Mikuni and Goldberg disclose every feature discussed in claim 9, and Goldberg further teaches of that the correcting unit (as discussed in claim 9) applies contrast correction to the received image data (col. 15, lines 52-59 describes that the received image data would be adjusted at distribution station 77).

As to claim 14, Mikuni and Goldberg disclose every feature discussed in claim 9, and Goldberg further teaches of that the correcting unit (as discussed in claim 9) applies color correction to the received image data (col. 15, lines 52-59 describes that the received image data would be adjusted at distribution station 77).

4. Claims 2-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Mikuni and Suzuki as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Nozaki et al. (US Patent No. 6,421,470 B1).

As to claim 2, Mikuni and Suzuki disclose every feature discussed in claim 1.

However, Mikuni and Suzuki do not teach the receiving unit receives the image data that is stored in a recording medium.

Nozaki, in the same field of endeavor "the image printer system in fig. 5" teaches the receiving unit (i.e., the image signal input unit 10 in fig. 5) receives the image data from a recording medium such as the floppy disk (col. 9, lines 8-13 describes that the input unit 10 has an interface for not only receiving digital image from a digital camera 10c or a computer 10d, but also from recording medium such as the Floppy Disks "FDs" "col. 9, lines 44-49").

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the receiving unit of Mikuni for being capable of receiving the image data from a recording medium as taught by Nozaki. The suggestion for modifying the printer system of Mikuni can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth above by Nozaki because the modified printer system of Mikuni would increase the functionality of the receiving unit for receiving the image data not only from a digital device but also from a floppy disk. The resultant systems will accept the same type of image data from various media.

As to claim 3, Mikuni and Suzuki discloses every feature discussed in claim 2, and Nozaki further teaches the receiving unit (i.e., the image signal input unit 10 in fig. 5) is capable of receiving plural kinks of recording mediums (col. 9, lines 8-13 describes that the input unit 10 has an interface for not only receiving image data from a plurality of output devices such as a digital camera and a computer 10d, but also from recording media such as Floppy Disks "FDs" and Compact Disks-Recordable "CD-Rs" "col. 9, lines 44-49").

5. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Mikuni (US Patent No. 6,133,947) and Goldberg (US Patent No. 6,526,158 B1) as applied to claim 9 above, and further in view of Fantone et al. (US Patent No. 6,549,295 B1).

As to claim 13, Mikuni and Goldberg disclose every feature discussed in claim 9.

However, the combination of Mikuni and Goldberg does not teach the correcting unit applies frequency correction to the received image data.

Fantone, in the same field of endeavor " an image processing system such as a kiosk in fig. 1A", teaches the correcting unit (col. 5, lines 43-48 describes that the software incorporated in the kiosk which would be considered as a correcting unit because it performs image

processing including the frequency correction "col. 9, lines 5-6") applies frequency correction to the received image data (step 172 in fig. 5 and col. 9, lines 5-6 describes that the frequency correction, which is the lenticular spatial frequency, is selected for applying to the input image data " step 170 in fig. 5 and col. 8, lines 57-58").

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the correction unit of Mikuni and Goldberg for applying the frequency correction to the input image as taught by Fantone. The suggestion for modifying the printing system of Mikuni and Goldberg can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth above by Fantone because the modified printing system of Mikuni and Goldberg would increase the functionality of the correction unit for correcting the frequency to the input image data. Therefore, the resultant combination systems will improve image quality to the printed image data.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 5-8 are allowed.

Claim 5 is independent claim.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claim 5, the combination of closest prior art such as Mikuni (US Patent No. 6,133,947), Goldberg (US Patent No. 6,526,158 B1), Fantone et al. (US Patent No. 6,549,295 B1) and Nozaki et al. (US Patent No. 6,421,470 B1), including electronic search, would not teach: a printing unit that prints an image based on the extracted image data from the *first medium set in the first portion*; and a storing unit that stores the extracted image data, which is

from the *first medium set in the first portion*, in the *second medium set in the second portion*, in which image data is to be *saved*.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. This action is made **non-final**.

Applicant asserted in page 5 "Mikuni does not teach a saving unit that saves received image data" . In reply, Mikuni clearly teaches a saving unit (i.e., floppy disk driver 32 in fig. 5) that saves the received image data in a recording medium (i.e., a floppy disk) (col. 7, lines 21-27 describes that the floppy disk drive saves the memory contents of the RAM " the received image data" on the floppy disk that is the recording medium. Col. 7, lines 10-19 describes that the memory contents of the RAM includes the received photographed image data, which is received from the camera 1, in combination "or synthesization" with other received map image data. Although the photographed image data combined with other the map image data, the combination image data still contains the received photographed image data which is saved in the floppy disk).

However, Mikuni does not teach the CPU (or a correcting unit) for correcting the received image data so that the corrected image data is printed.

Goldberg, in the same field endeavor "image processing system such as a kiosk", teaches a correcting unit for corrects the received image data so that the corrected image data is printed (in fig. 2 and col. 15, lines 41 describes that the patron 43 stands in front of the kiosk " 75 in fig. 2" that has the distribution station 77 including the viewing screen 85 for reviewing the received

image data from the storage device 71. Col. 15, lines 53-59 describes that, at the distribution station 77, the patron could perform certain actions such as printing an image and manipulating the image to produce special photographic effects such as adjusting contrast or color, etc. Therefore, the distribution station 77 inherently comprises a component corresponding to a correcting unit for adjusting contrast or color on the received image data; and the corrected image data is printed by the patron).

For the above reasons, it is believed that the cited prior art fully discloses the claimed invention and the rejection stand.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4857 or E-mail address is Douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Douglas Q. Tran
May. 17, 2004